

23104498D

HOUSE BILL NO. 1380

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the House Committee for Courts of Justice on January 23, 2023)

(Patrons Prior to Substitute—Delegates Campbell, R.R., Durant [HB 1703], and Wyatt [HB 1445])

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 46.2-334.01, 46.2-646, 46.2-810.1, 46.2-923, 46.2-926, 46.2-1003, 46.2-1013, 46.2-1014, 46.2-1014.1, 46.2-1030, 46.2-1049, 46.2-1051, 46.2-1052, 46.2-1054, 46.2-1094, 46.2-1157, and 46.2-1300 of the Code of Virginia, relating to issuing citations; certain traffic offenses.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 46.2-334.01, 46.2-646, 46.2-810.1, 46.2-923, 46.2-926, 46.2-1003, 46.2-1013, 46.2-1014, 46.2-1014.1, 46.2-1030, 46.2-1049, 46.2-1051, 46.2-1052, 46.2-1054, 46.2-1094, 46.2-1157, and 46.2-1300 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 46.2-334.01. Licenses issued to persons less than 18 years old subject to certain restrictions.

A. Any learner's permit or driver's license issued to any person less than 18 years old shall be subject to the following:

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 46.2-498, whenever the driving record of a person less than 19 years old shows that he has been convicted of committing, when he was less than 18 years old, (i) an offense for which demerit points have been assessed or are assessable under Article 19 (§ 46.2-489 et seq.) or (ii) a violation of any provision of Article 12 (§ 46.2-1091 et seq.) or Article 13 (§ 46.2-1095 et seq.) of Chapter 10, the Commissioner shall direct such person to attend a driver improvement clinic. No safe driving points shall be awarded for such clinic attendance, nor shall any safe driving points be awarded for voluntary or court-assigned clinic attendance. Such person's parent, guardian, legal custodian, or other person standing in loco parentis may attend such clinic and receive a reduction in demerit points and/or an award of safe driving points pursuant to § 46.2-498. The provisions of this subdivision shall not be construed to prohibit awarding of safe driving points to a person less than 18 years old who attends and successfully completes a driver improvement clinic without having been directed to do so by the Commissioner or required to do so by a court.

2. If any person less than 19 years old is convicted a second time of committing, when he was less than 18 years old, (i) an offense for which demerit points have been assessed or are assessable under Article 19 (§ 46.2-489 et seq.) or (ii) a violation of any provision of Article 12 (§ 46.2-1091 et seq.) or Article 13 (§ 46.2-1095 et seq.) of Chapter 10, the Commissioner shall suspend such person's driver's license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle for 90 days. Such suspension shall be consecutive to, and not concurrent with, any other period of license suspension, revocation, or denial. Any person who has had his driver's license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle suspended in accordance with this subdivision may petition the juvenile and domestic relations district court of his residence for a restricted license to authorize such person to drive a motor vehicle in the Commonwealth to and from his home, his place of employment, or an institution of higher education where he is enrolled, provided there is no other means of transportation by which such person may travel between his home and his place of employment or the institution of higher education where he is enrolled. On such petition the court may, in its discretion, authorize the issuance of a restricted license for a period not to exceed the term of the suspension of the person's license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle in the Commonwealth. Such restricted license shall be valid solely for operation of a motor vehicle between such person's home and his place of employment or the institution of higher education where he is enrolled.

3. If any person is convicted a third time of committing, when he was less than 18 years old, (i) an offense for which demerit points have been assessed or are assessable under Article 19 (§ 46.2-489 et seq.) or (ii) a violation of any provision of Article 12 (§ 46.2-1091 et seq.) or Article 13 (§ 46.2-1095 et seq.) of Chapter 10, the Commissioner shall revoke such person's driver's license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle for one year or until such person reaches the age of 18 years, whichever is longer. Such revocation shall be consecutive to, and not concurrent with, any other period of license suspension, revocation, or denial.

4. In no event shall any person subject to the provisions of this section be subject to the suspension or revocation provisions of subdivision 2 or 3 for multiple convictions arising out of the same transaction or occurrence.

B. The initial license issued to any person younger than 18 years of age shall be deemed a provisional driver's license. Until the holder is 18 years old, a provisional driver's license shall not authorize its holder to operate a motor vehicle with more than one passenger who is less than 21 years old. After the first year the provisional license is issued, the holder may operate a motor vehicle with up to three passengers who are less than 21 years old (i) when the holder is driving to or from a

60 school-sponsored activity, (ii) when a licensed driver who is at least 21 years old is occupying the seat  
61 beside the driver, or (iii) in cases of emergency. These passenger limitations, however, shall not apply to  
62 members of the driver's family or household. For the purposes of this subsection, "a member of the  
63 driver's family or household" means any of the following: (a) the driver's spouse, children, stepchildren,  
64 brothers, sisters, half-brothers, half-sisters, first cousins, and any individual who has a child in common  
65 with the driver, whether or not they reside in the same home with the driver; (b) the driver's  
66 brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law who reside in the same home with the driver; and (c) any individual  
67 who cohabits with the driver, and any children of such individual residing in the same home with the  
68 driver.

69 C. The holder of a provisional driver's license shall not operate a motor vehicle on the highways of  
70 the Commonwealth between the hours of midnight and 4:00 a.m. except when driving (i) to or from a  
71 place of business where he is employed; (ii) to or from an activity that is supervised by an adult and is  
72 sponsored by a school or by a civic, religious, or public organization; (iii) accompanied by a parent, a  
73 person acting in loco parentis, or by a spouse who is 18 years old or older, provided that such person  
74 accompanying the driver is actually occupying a seat beside the driver and is lawfully permitted to  
75 operate a motor vehicle at the time; or (iv) in cases of emergency, including response by volunteer  
76 firefighters and volunteer emergency medical services personnel to emergency calls.

77 D. The provisional driver's license restrictions in subsections B and C shall expire on the holder's  
78 eighteenth birthday. A violation of the provisional driver's license restrictions in subsection B or C shall  
79 constitute a traffic infraction. For a second or subsequent violation of the provisional driver's license  
80 restrictions in subsection B or C, in addition to any other penalties that may be imposed pursuant to  
81 § 16.1-278.10, the court may suspend the juvenile's privilege to drive for a period not to exceed six  
82 months.

83 E. A violation of subsection B or C shall not constitute negligence, be considered in mitigation of  
84 damages of whatever nature, be admissible in evidence, or be the subject of comment by counsel in any  
85 action for the recovery of damages arising out of the operation, ownership, or maintenance of a motor  
86 vehicle, nor shall anything in this subsection change any existing law, rule, or procedure pertaining to  
87 any such civil action.

88 F. ~~No law enforcement officer shall stop a motor vehicle for a violation of this section. No evidence~~  
89 ~~discovered or obtained as the result of a stop in violation of this subsection, including evidence~~  
90 ~~discovered or obtained with the operator's consent, shall be admissible in any trial, hearing, or other~~  
91 ~~proceeding citation for a violation of this section shall be issued unless the officer issuing such citation~~  
92 ~~has cause to stop or arrest the driver of such motor vehicle for the violation of some other provision of~~  
93 ~~this Code or local ordinance relating to the operation, ownership, or maintenance of a motor vehicle or~~  
94 ~~any criminal statute.~~

95 **§ 46.2-646. Expiration and renewal of registration.**

96 A. Every registration under this title, unless otherwise provided, shall expire on the last day of the  
97 twelfth month next succeeding the date of registration. Every registration, unless otherwise provided,  
98 shall be renewed annually on application by the owner and by payment of the fees required by law, the  
99 renewal to take effect on the first day of the month succeeding the date of expiration. Notwithstanding  
100 these limitations, the Commissioner may extend the validity period of an expiring registration if (i) the  
101 Department is unable to process an application for renewal due to circumstances beyond its control, and  
102 (ii) the extension has been authorized under a directive from the Governor. However, in no event shall  
103 the validity period be extended more than 90 days per occurrence of such conditions.

104 B. All motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers registered in the Commonwealth shall, at the  
105 discretion of the Commissioner, be placed in a system of registration on a monthly basis to distribute  
106 the work of registering motor vehicles as uniformly as practicable throughout the 12 months of the year.  
107 All such motor vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers, unless otherwise provided, shall be registered for a  
108 period of 12 months. The registration shall be extended, at the discretion of the Commissioner, on  
109 receipt of appropriate prorated fees, as required by law, for a period of not less than one month nor  
110 more than 11 months as is necessary to distribute the registrations as equally as practicable on a  
111 monthly basis. The Commissioner shall, on request, assign to any owner or owners of two or more  
112 motor vehicles, trailers, or semitrailers the same registration period. The expiration date shall be the last  
113 day of the twelfth month or the last day of the designated month. Except for motor vehicles, trailers,  
114 and semitrailers registered for more than one year under subsection C of this section, every registration  
115 shall be renewed annually on application by the owner and by payment of fees required by law, the  
116 renewal to take effect on the first day of the succeeding month.

117 C. The Commissioner may offer, at his discretion, an optional multi-year registration for all motor  
118 vehicles, trailers, and semitrailers except for (i) those registered under the International Registration Plan  
119 and (ii) those registered as uninsured motor vehicles. When this option is offered and chosen by the  
120 registrant, all annual and 12-month fees due at the time of registration shall be multiplied by the number  
121 of years or fraction thereof that the vehicle will be registered.

122 D. For any summons issued for a violation of this section, the court may, in its discretion, dismiss  
123 the summons where proof of compliance with this section is provided to the court on or before the court  
124 date.

125 E. ~~No law enforcement officer shall stop a motor vehicle due to an expired registration sticker prior  
126 to the first day of the fourth month after the original expiration date. No evidence discovered or  
127 obtained as the result of a stop in violation of this subsection, including evidence discovered or obtained  
128 with the operator's consent, shall be admissible in any trial, hearing, or other proceeding.~~

129 **§ 46.2-810.1. Smoking in vehicle with a minor present; civil penalty.**

130 A. For the purposes of this section, "smoke" means to carry or hold any lighted pipe, cigar, or  
131 cigarette of any kind or any other lighted smoking equipment or to light or inhale or exhale smoke from  
132 a pipe, cigar, or cigarette of any kind or any other lighted smoking equipment.

133 B. It is unlawful for a person to smoke in a motor vehicle, whether in motion or at rest, when a  
134 minor under the age of 15 is present in the motor vehicle. A violation of this section is punishable by a  
135 civil penalty of \$100 to be paid into the state treasury and credited to the Literary Fund. No demerit  
136 points shall be assigned under Article 19 (§ 46.2-489 et seq.) of Chapter 3 and no court costs shall be  
137 assessed for a violation of this section. A violation of this section may be charged on the uniform traffic  
138 summons form.

139 C. ~~No law enforcement officer shall stop a motor vehicle for a violation of this section. No evidence  
140 discovered or obtained as the result of a stop in violation of this subsection, including evidence  
141 discovered or obtained with the operator's consent, shall be admissible in any trial, hearing, or other  
142 proceeding citation for a violation of this section shall be issued unless the officer issuing such citation  
143 has cause to stop or arrest the driver of such motor vehicle for the violation of some other provision of  
144 this Code or local ordinance relating to the operation, ownership, or maintenance of a motor vehicle or  
145 any criminal statute.~~

146 **§ 46.2-923. How and where pedestrians to cross highways.**

147 A. When crossing highways, pedestrians shall not carelessly or maliciously interfere with the orderly  
148 passage of vehicles. They shall cross, wherever possible, only at intersections or marked crosswalks.  
149 Where intersections contain no marked crosswalks, pedestrians shall not be guilty of negligence as a  
150 matter of law for crossing at any such intersection or between intersections when crossing by the most  
151 direct route.

152 B. The governing body of any town or city or the governing body of a county authorized by law to  
153 regulate traffic may by ordinance permit pedestrians to cross an intersection diagonally when all traffic  
154 entering the intersection has been halted by lights, other traffic control devices, or by a law-enforcement  
155 officer.

156 C. ~~No law enforcement officer shall stop a pedestrian for a violation of this section. No evidence  
157 discovered or obtained as the result of a stop in violation of this subsection, including evidence  
158 discovered or obtained with the person's consent, shall be admissible in any trial, hearing, or other  
159 proceeding.~~

160 **§ 46.2-926. Pedestrians stepping into highway where they cannot be seen.**

161 A. No pedestrian shall step into a highway open to moving vehicular traffic at any point between  
162 intersections where his presence would be obscured from the vision of drivers of approaching vehicles  
163 by a vehicle or other obstruction at the curb or side. The foregoing prohibition shall not apply to a  
164 pedestrian stepping into a highway to board a bus or to enter a safety zone, in which event he shall  
165 cross the highway only at right angles.

166 B. ~~No law enforcement officer shall stop a pedestrian for a violation of this section. No evidence  
167 discovered or obtained as the result of a stop in violation of this subsection, including evidence  
168 discovered or obtained with the person's consent, shall be admissible in any trial, hearing, or other  
169 proceeding.~~

170 **§ 46.2-1003. Illegal use of defective and unsafe equipment.**

171 A. It shall be unlawful for any person to use or have as equipment on a motor vehicle operated on a  
172 highway any device or equipment mentioned in § 46.2-1002 which is defective and in an unsafe  
173 condition.

174 B. For any summons issued for a violation of this section, the court may, in its discretion, dismiss  
175 the summons, where proof of compliance with this section is provided to the court on or before the  
176 court date.

177 C. ~~No law enforcement officer shall stop a motor vehicle for a violation of this section. No evidence  
178 discovered or obtained as the result of a stop in violation of this subsection, including evidence  
179 discovered or obtained with the operator's consent, shall be admissible in any trial, hearing, or other  
180 proceeding.~~

181 **§ 46.2-1013. Tail lights.**

182 A. Every motor vehicle and every trailer or semitrailer being drawn at the end of one or more other

183 vehicles shall carry at the rear two red lights plainly visible in clear weather from a distance of 500 feet  
184 to the rear of such vehicle.

185 ~~B. All *Such* tail lights required pursuant to subsection A shall be constructed and so mounted in their~~  
186 ~~relation to the rear license plate as to illuminate the license plate with a white light so that the same~~  
187 ~~may be read from a distance of 50 feet to the rear of such vehicle. Alternatively, a separate white light~~  
188 ~~shall be so mounted as to illuminate the rear license plate from a distance of 50 feet to the rear of such~~  
189 ~~vehicle. No law enforcement officer shall stop a motor vehicle for a violation of this subsection. No~~  
190 ~~evidence discovered or obtained as the result of a stop in violation of this subsection, including evidence~~  
191 ~~discovered or obtained with the operator's consent, shall be admissible in any trial, hearing, or other~~  
192 ~~proceeding.~~

193 C. Any *such* tail lights or special white light required pursuant to this section shall be of a type  
194 approved by the Superintendent.

195 D. In any instance where the tail light is to be installed on a boat trailer and the boat extends beyond  
196 the end of the trailer or to the end of the trailer, an approved portable light assembly or assemblies may  
197 be attached to the exposed rear of the boat, provided such installation complies with the visibility  
198 requirements of this section. The provisions of this section shall not apply to motorcycles.

199 **§ 46.2-1014. Brake lights.**

200 A. Every motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer, except an antique vehicle not originally equipped with  
201 a brake light, registered in the Commonwealth and operated on the highways in the Commonwealth  
202 shall be equipped with at least two brake lights of a type approved by the Superintendent. Such brake  
203 lights shall automatically exhibit a red or amber light plainly visible in clear weather from a distance of  
204 500 feet to the rear of such vehicle when the brake is applied.

205 The provisions of this section shall not apply to motorcycles or autcycles equipped with brake lights  
206 as required by § 46.2-1012.

207 ~~B. No law enforcement officer shall stop a motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer for a violation of this~~  
208 ~~section, except that a law enforcement officer may stop a vehicle if it displays no brake lights that meet~~  
209 ~~the requirements set forth in subsection A. No evidence discovered or obtained as the result of a stop in~~  
210 ~~violation of this subsection, including evidence discovered or obtained with the operator's consent, shall~~  
211 ~~be admissible in any trial, hearing, or other proceeding.~~

212 **§ 46.2-1014.1. Supplemental high mount stop light.**

213 A. Whenever operated on the highways, every Virginia-registered passenger car manufactured for the  
214 1986 or subsequent model year shall be equipped with a supplemental center high mount stop light of a  
215 type approved by the Superintendent or which meets the standards adopted by the United States  
216 Department of Transportation. The light shall be mounted as near the vertical center line of the vehicle  
217 as possible. The light shall be actuated only in conjunction with the vehicle's brake lights and hazard  
218 lights. Any supplemental high mount stop light installed on any other vehicle shall comply with those  
219 requirements.

220 ~~B. No law enforcement officer shall stop a motor vehicle for a violation of this section. No evidence~~  
221 ~~discovered or obtained as the result of a stop in violation of this subsection, including evidence~~  
222 ~~discovered or obtained with the operator's consent, shall be admissible in any trial, hearing, or other~~  
223 ~~proceeding.~~

224 **§ 46.2-1030. When lights to be lighted; number of lights to be lighted at any time; use of**  
225 **warning lights.**

226 A. Every vehicle in operation on a highway in the Commonwealth shall display lighted headlights  
227 and illuminating devices as required by this article (i) from sunset to sunrise; (ii) during any other time  
228 when, because of rain, smoke, fog, snow, sleet, insufficient light, or other unfavorable atmospheric  
229 conditions, visibility is reduced to a degree whereby persons or vehicles on the highway are not clearly  
230 discernible at a distance of 500 feet; and (iii) whenever windshield wipers are in use as a result of fog,  
231 rain, sleet, or snow. The provisions of this subsection, however, shall not apply to instances when  
232 windshield wipers are used intermittently in misting rain, sleet, or snow.

233 B. Not more than four lights used to provide general illumination ahead of the vehicle, including at  
234 least two headlights and any other combination of fog lights or other auxiliary lights approved by the  
235 Superintendent, shall be lighted at any time. However, motorcycles may be equipped with and use not  
236 more than five approved lights in order to provide general illumination ahead of the motorcycle. These  
237 limitations shall not preclude the display of warning lights authorized in §§ 46.2-1020 through  
238 46.2-1027, or other lights as may be authorized by the Superintendent.

239 C. Vehicles equipped with warning lights authorized in §§ 46.2-1020 through 46.2-1027 shall display  
240 lighted warning lights as authorized in such sections at all times when responding to emergency calls,  
241 responding to traffic incidents, towing disabled vehicles, or constructing, repairing, and maintaining  
242 public highways or utilities on or along public highways, except that amber lights on vehicles designed  
243 with a ramp on wheels and a hydraulic lift with a capacity to haul or tow another vehicle, commonly  
244 referred to as "rollbacks," need not be lit while the vehicle is in motion unless it is actually towing a

245 vehicle.

246 D. The failure to display lighted headlights and illuminating devices under the conditions set forth in  
247 clause (iii) of subsection A shall not constitute negligence per se, nor shall violation of clause (iii) of  
248 subsection A constitute a defense to any claim for personal injury or recovery of medical expenses for  
249 injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident.

250 E. No demerit points shall be assessed for failure to display lighted headlights and illuminating  
251 devices during periods of fog, rain, sleet, or snow in violation of clause (iii) of subsection A.

252 F. No citation for a violation of clause (iii) of subsection A shall be issued unless the officer issuing  
253 such citation has cause to stop or arrest the driver of such motor vehicle for the violation of some other  
254 provision of this Code or local ordinance relating to the operation, ownership, or maintenance of a  
255 motor vehicle or any criminal statute. ~~No law enforcement officer shall stop a motor vehicle for a~~  
256 ~~violation of this section, except that a law enforcement officer may stop a vehicle if it displays no~~  
257 ~~lighted headlights during the time periods set forth in subsection A. No evidence discovered or obtained~~  
258 ~~as the result of a stop in violation of this subsection, including evidence discovered or obtained with the~~  
259 ~~operator's consent, shall be admissible in any trial, hearing, or other proceeding.~~

260 **§ 46.2-1049. Exhaust system in good working order.**

261 No person shall drive and no owner of a vehicle shall permit or allow the operation of any such  
262 vehicle on a highway unless it is equipped with an exhaust system in good working order and in  
263 constant operation to prevent excessive or unusual levels of noise, provided, however, that for motor  
264 vehicles, such exhaust system shall be of a type installed as standard factory equipment, or comparable  
265 to that designed for use on the particular vehicle as standard factory equipment ~~or other equipment that~~  
266 ~~has been submitted to and approved by the Superintendent or meets or exceeds the standards and~~  
267 ~~specifications of the Society of Automotive Engineers, the American National Standards Institute, or the~~  
268 ~~federal Department of Transportation. An exhaust system shall not be deemed to prevent excessive or~~  
269 ~~unusual noise if it permits the escape of noise in excess of that permitted by the standard factory~~  
270 ~~equipment exhaust system of private passenger motor vehicles or trucks of standard make.~~

271 As used in this section, "exhaust system" means all the parts of a vehicle through which the exhaust  
272 passes after leaving the engine block, including mufflers and other sound dissipative devices.

273 Chambered pipes are not an effective muffling device to prevent excessive or unusual noise, and any  
274 vehicle equipped with chambered pipes shall be deemed in violation of this section.

275 The provisions of this section shall not apply to (i) any antique motor vehicle licensed pursuant to  
276 § 46.2-730, provided that the engine is comparable to that designed as standard factory equipment for  
277 use on that particular vehicle, and the exhaust system is in good working order, or (ii) converted electric  
278 vehicles.

279 **§ 46.2-1051. Local ordinances; vehicle exhaust.**

280 ~~A.~~ The governing body of any county, city, or town may, by ordinance, regulate noise from a  
281 vehicle operated on a highway that is not equipped with a muffler and exhaust system conforming to  
282 §§ 46.2-1047 and 46.2-1049.

283 ~~B.~~ The provisions of subsection E of § 46.2-1300 shall not apply to ordinances adopted pursuant to  
284 this section.

285 **§ 46.2-1052. Tinting films, signs, decals, and stickers on windshields, etc.; penalties.**

286 A. As used in this article, unless the context requires a different meaning:

287 "Front side windows" means those windows located adjacent to and forward of the driver's seat.

288 "Holographic effect" means a picture or image that may remain constant or change as the viewing  
289 angle is changed.

290 "Multipurpose passenger vehicle" means any motor vehicle that is (i) designed to carry no more than  
291 10 persons and (ii) constructed either on a truck chassis or with special features for occasional off-road  
292 use.

293 "Prism effect" means a visual, iridescent, or rainbow-like effect that separates light into various  
294 colored components that may change depending on viewing angle.

295 "Rear side windows" means those windows located to the rear of the driver's seat.

296 "Rear window" or "rear windows" means those windows that are located to the rear of the passenger  
297 compartment of a motor vehicle and that are approximately parallel to the windshield.

298 B. Except as otherwise provided in this article or permitted by federal law, it shall be unlawful for  
299 any person to operate any motor vehicle on a highway with any sign, poster, colored or tinted film,  
300 sun-shading material, or other colored material on the windshield, front or rear side windows, or rear  
301 windows of such motor vehicle. This provision, however, shall not apply to any certificate or other  
302 paper required by law or permitted by the Superintendent to be placed on a motor vehicle's windshield  
303 or window.

304 The size of stickers or decals used by counties, cities, and towns in lieu of license plates shall be in  
305 compliance with regulations promulgated by the Superintendent. Such stickers shall be affixed on the

306 windshield at a location designated by the Superintendent.

307 C. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section, whenever a motor vehicle is equipped  
308 with a mirror on each side of such vehicle, so located as to reflect to the driver of such vehicle a view  
309 of the highway for at least 200 feet to the rear of such vehicle, any or all of the following shall be  
310 lawful:

311 1. To drive a motor vehicle equipped with one optically grooved clear plastic right-angle rear view  
312 lens attached to one rear window of such motor vehicle, not exceeding 18 inches in diameter in the case  
313 of a circular lens or not exceeding 11 inches by 14 inches in the case of a rectangular lens, which  
314 enables the driver of the motor vehicle to view below the line of sight as viewed through the rear  
315 window;

316 2. To have affixed to the rear side windows, rear window or windows of a motor vehicle any sticker  
317 or stickers, regardless of size; or

318 3. To drive a motor vehicle when the driver's clear view of the highway through the rear window or  
319 windows is otherwise obstructed.

320 D. Except as provided in § 46.2-1053, but notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section,  
321 no sun-shading or tinting film may be applied or affixed to any window of a motor vehicle unless such  
322 motor vehicle is equipped with a mirror on each side of such motor vehicle, so located as to reflect to  
323 the driver of the vehicle a view of the highway for at least 200 feet to the rear of such vehicle, and the  
324 sun-shading or tinting film is applied or affixed in accordance with the following:

325 1. No sun-shading or tinting films may be applied or affixed to the rear side windows or rear  
326 window or windows of any motor vehicle operated on the highways of the Commonwealth that reduce  
327 the total light transmittance of such window to less than 35 percent;

328 2. No sun-shading or tinting films may be applied or affixed to the front side windows of any motor  
329 vehicle operated on the highways of the Commonwealth that reduce total light transmittance of such  
330 window to less than 50 percent;

331 3. No sun-shading or tinting films shall be applied or affixed to any window of a motor vehicle that  
332 (i) have a reflectance of light exceeding 20 percent or (ii) produce a holographic or prism effect.

333 Any person who operates a motor vehicle on the highways of the Commonwealth with sun-shading  
334 or tinting films that (i) have a total light transmittance less than that required by subdivisions 1 and 2,  
335 (ii) have a reflectance of light exceeding 20 percent, or (iii) produce holographic or prism effects is  
336 guilty of a traffic infraction but shall not be awarded any demerit points by the Commissioner for the  
337 violation.

338 Any person or firm who applies or affixes to the windows of any motor vehicle in Virginia  
339 sun-shading or tinting films that (i) reduce the light transmittance to levels less than that allowed in  
340 subdivisions 1 and 2, (ii) have a reflectance of light exceeding 20 percent, or (iii) produce holographic  
341 or prism effects is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor for the first offense and of a Class 2 misdemeanor  
342 for any subsequent offense.

343 E. The Division of Purchases and Supply, pursuant to § 2.2-1112, shall determine the proper  
344 standards for equipment or devices used to measure light transmittance through windows of motor  
345 vehicles. Law-enforcement officers shall use only such equipment or devices to measure light  
346 transmittance through windows that meet the standards established by the Division. Such measurements  
347 made by law-enforcement officers shall be given a tolerance of minus seven percentage points.

348 F. No film or darkening material may be applied on the windshield except to replace the sunshield in  
349 the uppermost area as installed by the manufacturer of the vehicle.

350 G. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the affixing to the rear window of a motor vehicle of a  
351 single sticker no larger than 20 square inches if such sticker is totally contained within the lower five  
352 inches of the glass of the rear window, nor shall subsection C apply to a motor vehicle to which but one  
353 such sticker is so affixed.

354 H. Nothing in this section shall prohibit applying to the rear side windows or rear window of any  
355 multipurpose passenger vehicle or pickup truck sun-shading or tinting films that reduce the total light  
356 transmittance of such window or windows below 35 percent.

357 I. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this section, sun-shading material which was applied  
358 or installed prior to July 1, 1987, in a manner and on which windows not then in violation of Virginia  
359 law, shall continue to be lawful, provided that it can be shown by appropriate receipts that such material  
360 was installed prior to July 1, 1987.

361 J. Where a person is convicted within one year of a second or subsequent violation of this section  
362 involving the operation of the same vehicle having a tinted or smoked windshield, the court, in addition  
363 to any other penalty, may order the person so convicted to remove such tinted or smoked windshield  
364 from the vehicle.

365 K. The provisions of this section shall not apply to law-enforcement vehicles.

366 L. The provisions of this section shall not apply to the rear windows or rear side windows of any  
367 emergency medical services vehicle used to transport patients.

368 M. The provisions of subdivisions D 1, 2, and 3 shall not apply to vehicles operated in the  
369 performance of private security duties by a security canine handler as defined in § 9.1-138 and licensed  
370 in accordance with § 9.1-139.

371 N. The provisions of subdivision D 1 shall not apply to sight-seeing carriers as defined in  
372 § 46.2-2000 and contract passenger carriers as defined in § 46.2-2000.

373 O. For any summons issued for a violation of this section, the court may, in its discretion, dismiss  
374 the summons, where proof of compliance with this section is provided to the court on or before the  
375 court date.

376 ~~P. No law enforcement officer shall stop a motor vehicle for a violation of this section. No evidence~~  
377 ~~discovered or obtained as the result of a stop in violation of this subsection, including evidence~~  
378 ~~discovered or obtained with the operator's consent, shall be admissible in any trial, hearing, or other~~  
379 ~~proceeding.~~

380 **§ 46.2-1054. Suspension of objects or alteration of vehicle so as to obstruct driver's view.**

381 A. It shall be unlawful for any person (i) to drive a motor vehicle on a highway in the  
382 Commonwealth with any object or objects, other than a rear view mirror, sun visor, or other equipment  
383 of the motor vehicle approved by the Superintendent, suspended from any part of the motor vehicle in  
384 such a manner as to substantially obstruct the driver's clear view of the highway through the windshield,  
385 the front side windows, or the rear window or (ii) to alter a passenger-carrying vehicle in such a manner  
386 as to obstruct the driver's view through the windshield. However, this section shall not apply (a) when  
387 the driver's clear view of the highway through the rear window is obstructed if such motor vehicle is  
388 equipped with a mirror on each side, so located as to reflect to the driver a view of the highway for at  
389 least 200 feet to the rear of such vehicle, (b) to safety devices installed on the windshields of vehicles  
390 owned by private waste haulers or local governments and used to transport solid waste, or (c) to bicycle  
391 racks installed on the front of any bus operated by any city, county, transit authority, or transit or  
392 transportation district. The provisions of clause (ii) shall not apply to the lawful immobilization of  
393 vehicles pursuant to § 46.2-1216 or 46.2-1231.

394 ~~B. No law enforcement officer shall stop a motor vehicle for a violation of this section. No evidence~~  
395 ~~discovered or obtained as the result of a stop in violation of this subsection, including evidence~~  
396 ~~discovered or obtained with the operator's consent, shall be admissible in any trial, hearing, or other~~  
397 ~~proceeding.~~

398 **§ 46.2-1094. Occupants of front seats of motor vehicles required to use safety lap belts and**  
399 **shoulder harnesses; penalty.**

400 A. Any driver, and any other person at least 18 years of age and occupying the front seat, of a motor  
401 vehicle equipped or required by the provisions of this title to be equipped with a safety belt system,  
402 consisting of lap belts, shoulder harnesses, combinations thereof or similar devices, shall wear the  
403 appropriate safety belt system at all times while the motor vehicle is in motion on any public highway.  
404 A passenger under the age of 18 years, however, shall be protected as required by the provisions of  
405 Article 13 (§ 46.2-1095 et seq.) of this chapter.

406 B. This section shall not apply to:

407 1. Any person for whom a licensed physician determines that the use of such safety belt system  
408 would be impractical by reason of such person's physical condition or other medical reason, provided the  
409 person so exempted carries on his person or in the vehicle a signed written statement of the physician  
410 identifying the exempted person and stating the grounds for the exemption; or

411 2. Any law-enforcement officer transporting persons in custody or traveling in circumstances which  
412 render the wearing of such safety belt system impractical; or

413 3. Any person while driving a motor vehicle and performing the duties of a rural mail carrier for the  
414 United States Postal Service; or

415 4. Any person driving a motor vehicle and performing the duties of a rural newspaper route carrier,  
416 newspaper bundle hauler or newspaper rack carrier; or

417 5. Drivers of and passengers in taxicabs; or

418 6. Personnel of commercial or municipal vehicles while actually engaged in the collection or delivery  
419 of goods or services, including but not limited to solid waste, where such collection or delivery requires  
420 the personnel to exit and enter the cab of the vehicle with such frequency and regularity so as to render  
421 the use of safety belt systems impractical and the safety benefits derived therefrom insignificant. Such  
422 personnel shall resume the use of safety belt systems when actual collection or delivery has ceased or  
423 when the vehicle is in transit to or from a point of final disposition or disposal, including but not  
424 limited to solid waste facilities, terminals, or other location where the vehicle may be principally  
425 garaged; or

426 7. Any person driving a motor vehicle and performing the duties of a utility meter reader; or

427 8. Law-enforcement agency personnel driving motor vehicles to enforce laws governing motor  
428 vehicle parking.

429 C. Any person who violates this section shall be subject to a civil penalty of twenty-five dollars to  
430 be paid into the state treasury and credited to the Literary Fund. No assignment of demerit points shall  
431 be made under Article 19 of Chapter 3 (§ 46.2-489 et seq.) of this title and no court costs shall be  
432 assessed for violations of this section.

433 D. A violation of this section shall not constitute negligence, be considered in mitigation of damages  
434 of whatever nature, be admissible in evidence or be the subject of comment by counsel in any action for  
435 the recovery of damages arising out of the operation, ownership, or maintenance of a motor vehicle, nor  
436 shall anything in this section change any existing law, rule, or procedure pertaining to any such civil  
437 action.

438 E. A violation of this section may be charged on the uniform traffic summons form.

439 F. ~~No law enforcement officer shall stop a motor vehicle for a violation of this section. No evidence~~  
440 ~~discovered or obtained as the result of a stop in violation of this subsection, including evidence~~  
441 ~~discovered or obtained with the operator's consent, shall be admissible in any trial, hearing, or other~~  
442 ~~proceeding citation for a violation of this section shall be issued unless the officer issuing such citation~~  
443 ~~has cause to stop or arrest the driver of such motor vehicle for the violation of some other provision of~~  
444 ~~this Code or local ordinance relating to the operation, ownership, or maintenance of a motor vehicle or~~  
445 ~~any criminal statute.~~

446 G. The governing body of the City of Lynchburg may adopt an ordinance not inconsistent with the  
447 provisions of this section, requiring the use of safety belt systems. The penalty for violating any such  
448 ordinance shall not exceed a fine or civil penalty of twenty-five dollars.

449 **§ 46.2-1157. Inspection of motor vehicles required.**

450 A. The owner or operator of any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer registered in Virginia and  
451 operated or parked on a highway within the Commonwealth shall submit his vehicle to an inspection of  
452 its mechanism and equipment by an official inspection station, designated for that purpose, in  
453 accordance with § 46.2-1158. No owner or operator shall fail to submit a motor vehicle, trailer, or  
454 semitrailer operated or parked on the highways in the Commonwealth to such inspection or fail or refuse  
455 to correct or have corrected in accordance with the requirements of this title any mechanical defects  
456 found by such inspection to exist.

457 B. The provisions of this section requiring safety inspections of motor vehicles shall also apply to  
458 vehicles used for firefighting; inspections of firefighting vehicles shall be conducted pursuant to  
459 regulations promulgated by the Superintendent of State Police, taking into consideration the special  
460 purpose of such vehicles and the conditions under which they operate.

461 C. Each day during which such motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer is operated or parked on any  
462 highway in the Commonwealth after failure to comply with this law shall constitute a separate offense.

463 D. Except as otherwise provided, autocycles shall be inspected as motorcycles under this article.

464 E. ~~No law enforcement officer shall stop a motor vehicle due to an expired vehicle inspection sticker~~  
465 ~~until the first day of the fourth month after the original expiration date. No evidence discovered or~~  
466 ~~obtained as the result of a stop in violation of this subsection, including evidence discovered or obtained~~  
467 ~~with the operator's consent, shall be admissible in any trial, hearing, or other proceeding.~~

468 **§ 46.2-1300. Powers of local authorities generally; erection of signs and markers; maximum**  
469 **penalties.**

470 A. The governing bodies of counties, cities, and towns may adopt ordinances not in conflict with the  
471 provisions of this title to regulate the operation of vehicles on the highways in such counties, cities, and  
472 towns. They may also repeal, amend, or modify such ordinances and may erect appropriate signs or  
473 markers on the highway showing the general regulations applicable to the operation of vehicles on such  
474 highways. The governing body of any county, city, or town may by ordinance, or may by ordinance  
475 authorize its chief administrative officer to:

476 1. Increase or decrease the speed limit within its boundaries, provided such increase or decrease in  
477 speed shall be based upon an engineering and traffic investigation by such county, city or town and  
478 provided such speed area or zone is clearly indicated by markers or signs;

479 2. Authorize the city or town manager or such officer thereof as it may designate, to reduce for a  
480 temporary period not to exceed sixty days, without such engineering and traffic investigation, the speed  
481 limit on any portion of any highway of the city or town on which work is being done or where the  
482 highway is under construction or repair;

483 3. Require vehicles to come to a full stop or yield the right-of-way at a street intersection if one or  
484 more of the intersecting streets has been designated as a part of the primary state highway system in a  
485 town which has a population of less than 3,500;

486 4. Reduce the speed limit to less than 25 miles per hour, but not less than 15 miles per hour, on any  
487 highway within its boundaries that is located in a business district or residence district, provided that  
488 such reduced speed limit is indicated by lawfully placed signs.

489 B. No such ordinance shall be violated if at the time of the alleged violation the sign or marker  
490 placed in conformity with this section is missing, substantially defaced, or obscured so that an ordinarily

491 observant person under the same circumstances would not be aware of the existence of the ordinance.

492 C. No governing body of a county, city, or town may (i) provide penalties for violating a provision  
493 of an ordinance adopted pursuant to this section which is greater than the penalty imposed for a similar  
494 offense under the provisions of this title or (ii) provide that a violation of a provision of an ordinance  
495 adopted pursuant to this section is cause for a stop or arrest of a driver when such a stop or arrest is  
496 prohibited for a similar offense under the provisions of this title.

497 D. No county whose roads are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation shall  
498 designate, in terms of distance from a school, the placement of flashing warning lights unless the  
499 authority to do so has been expressly delegated to such county by the Department of Transportation, in  
500 its discretion.

501 E. No law enforcement officer shall stop a motor vehicle for a violation of a local ordinance relating  
502 to the ownership or maintenance of a motor vehicle unless such violation is a jailable offense. No  
503 evidence discovered or obtained as the result of a stop in violation of this subsection, including evidence  
504 discovered or obtained with the operator's consent, shall be admissible in any trial, hearing, or other  
505 proceeding.